

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 PM-07

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE UNN

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EC, DA, US

SUBJ: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

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SUMMARY: PRE-MEETING PRESS BRIEFING REFLECTED DANISH

VIEW THAT CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN DIRECTION OF JOINT US-EC DECLARATION. NEW EC DECLARATION ON MIDDLE EAST NOT ANTICIPATED, BUT MINISTERS MAY DECIDE TO REGISTER SOLIDARITY WITH DUTCH. DANES WISH TO HAVE FOREIGN MINISTERS PARTICIPATE IN EC SUMMIT MEETINGS. END SUMMARY.

1. SENIOR DANISH MFA OFFICIALS HELD BRIEFING LATE ON NOVEMBER 19 FOR JOURNALISTS COVERING EC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING. PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY EIGIL JORGENSEN LISTED AGENDA ITEMS AND POLITICAL DIRECTOR TROELS OLDENBURG ANSWERED QUESTIONS, MANY OF WHICH DEALT WITH PROPOSED US-EC DECLARATION.

2. AGENDA REPORTEDLY CONTAINS FIVE ITEMS:

- A. DRAFT REPORT ON EUROPEAN IDENTITY, FOR POSSIBLE ISSUANCE AT DECEMBER SUMMIT MEETING.
- B. PREPARATION OF SUMMIT MEETING.
- C. REPORT ON EC-US RELATIONS. (JORGENSEN INDICATED THAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE ON DRAFTING JOINT DECLARATION AND THAT DECLARATION IS NOW "WITHIN REACH.")
- D. CSCE
- E. REVIEW OF MIDDLE EAST ISSUES.

3. DURING QUESTION PERIOD, OLDENBURG SAID IT WAS DOUBTFUL THAT NEW DECLARATION ON MIDDLE EAST WOULD BE ISSUED. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT MINISTERS WOULD BE CONSIDERING FOLLOW-UP. HE ALSO SAID IT WAS QUITE POSSIBLE THERE WOULD BE AN EXPRESSION OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE NETHERLANDS.

4. RE US-EC DECLARATION, OLDENBURG REPORTEDLY EXPLAINED THAT "THE NINE HAD MADE A PROPOSAL. US HAD MADE A COUNTER-PROPOSAL. NINE HAS MADE A COUNTER-COUNTER PROPOSAL. US HAS CONSIDERED SOME OF OUR POINTS. WE HAVE CONSIDERED SOME OF THEIRS. FINALIZATION OF DECLARATION SHOULD NOT BE EXPECTED NOW BUT TOWARDS THE TIME WHEN PRESIDENT NIXON COMES TO EUROPE. OUR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS HAVE COME MUCH CLOSER. THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE IS NOW IN AGREEMENT ON DECLARATION. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHETHER MINISTERS WILL ENDORSE COMMITTEE'S WORK DURING THEIR MEETING NOV. 20 REMAINS TO BE SEEN." WHEN ASKED WHETHER THERE WERE OBJECTIONS TO USING SUCH TERMS AS "PARTNERSHIP" AND INTERDEPENDENCE" IN DECLARATION, OLDENBURG REPLIED THAT SOME TERMS IMPLY TOO CLOSE A RELATIONSHIP. "WE WANT TO DESCRIBE EUROPE AS A MORE DISTINCT ENTITY, BUT CLOSELY RELATED TO THE UNITED STATES." ASKED WHETHER DECLARATION IS SOMETHING FOR EC SUMMIT

MEETING, OLDENBURG REPLIED "NO". "WE HAVE DEVELOPED A COMMON SPIRIT (WITHIN THE NINE) BUT TEXT IS NOT UP FOR ADOPTION TOMORROW." TEXT ON EUROPEAN IDENTITY, ON OTHER HAND, WILL PROBABLY BE ADOPTED AT EC SUMMIT, HE INDICATED.

5. ASKED WHETHER INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF SUMMITS WILL BE DISCUSSED, OLDENBURG SAID "YES" AND ADDED THAT ISSUE OF "LIMITED PARTICIPATION" IN SUMMITS WOULD BE INCLUDED IN DISCUSSION. HE SAID THAT DANES WOULD PREFER TO HAVE FOREIGN MINISTERS PARTICIPATE.

6. OLDENBURG SHOWED RELUCTANCE TO COMMENT ON MINISTERS DISCUSSION OF CSCE, NOTING THAT CONFERENCE WAS NOW IN A DIFFICULT STAGE.

7. USEC FSL INFO SPECIALIST ECCLES FURTHER REPORTS THAT EC COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE SAYS COMMISSION SPOKESMAN LIKELY TO BE PRESENT WHEN MINISTERS DISCUSS ECONOMIC PARAGRAPHS OF US-EC DECLARATION. BELGIAN POLITICAL DIRECTOR DAVIGNON HAS REPORTEDLY INFORMED BELGIAN JOURNALISTS THAT POLITICAL PARAGRAPHS OF DECLARATION ARE ALMOST FINISHED BUT THAT A LOT OF WORK REMAINS TO BE DONE ON ECONOMIC PARAGRAPHS.
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